

#### LA-UR-21-25768

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

Title: Vaccine Hesitancy & COVID-19

Author(s): Russell, Hannah Benda

Intended for: education, use for multiple organizations as a safety share

Issued: 2021-06-18





# **Vaccine Hesitancy & COVID-19**

Hannah Russell PA-C

June 17, 2021

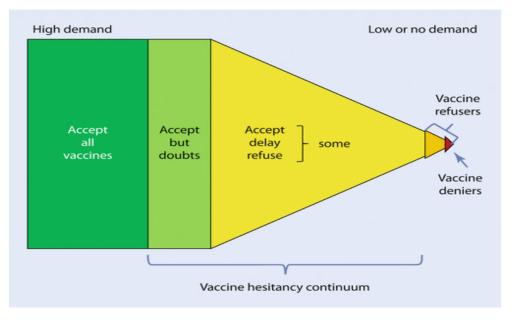


#### **Vaccine Hesitancy**

A delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite the availability of immunization services.

Vaccine hesitancy is influenced by:

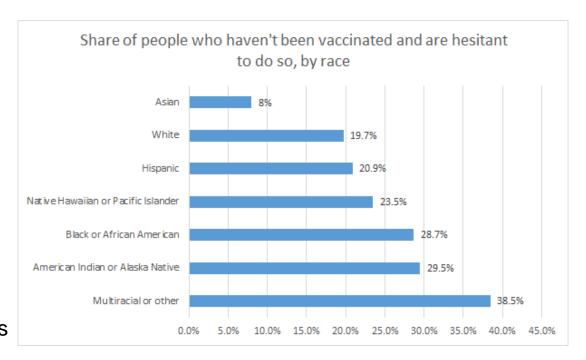
- Complacency
- Convenience
- Confidence





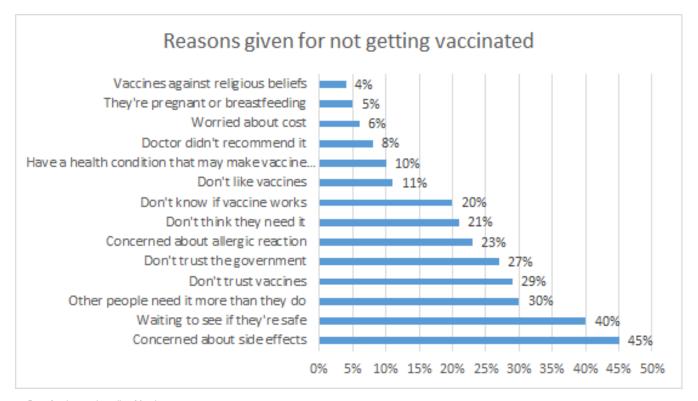
#### Many Factors Influence Vaccine Hesitancy

- Racial disparities
- Social media proliferation
- Pandemic politics
- Distrust of government
- Mistrust of science
- Conspiracy theories
- Religious beliefs
- Vaccine safety
- Concerns about side effects



Data for the week ending February 27. Source: Delphi Group at Carnegie Mellon University in partnership with Facebook

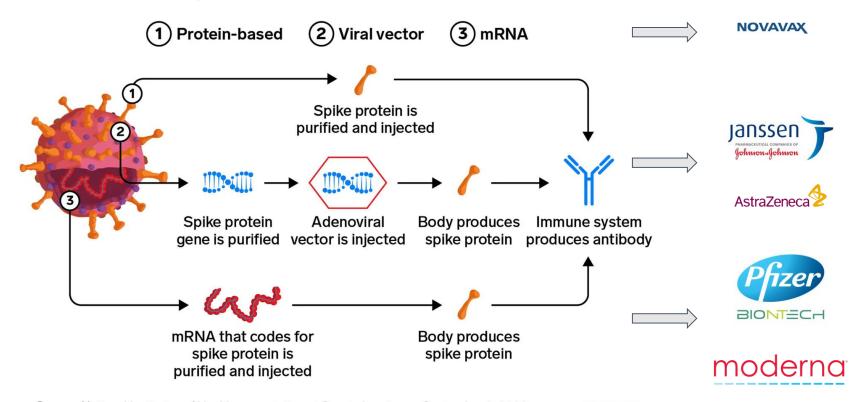
#### **Cited Concerns**





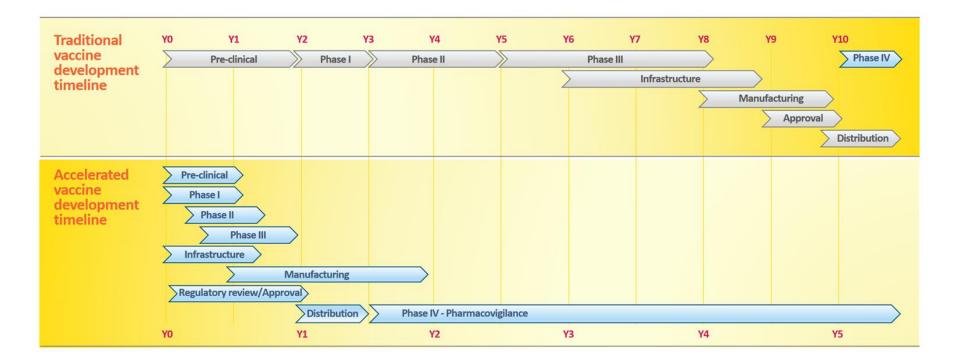
Data for the week ending March 8. Source: Delphi Group at Carnegie Mellon University in partnership with Facebook

#### Three Main Types of Vaccines in Development





## **Reliable Development & Approval Process**





## Real World Data (CDC)

- 0.01% of 101 million people vaccinated (10,262) had a breakthrough case
- >310 million doses were administered in the US from 12/14/20 to 6/14/21. During this time, 5,343 deaths were reported (0.0017%).
  - Review of medical records and autopsy reports could not establish a causal link to the COVID-19 vaccines with exception of a plausible causal relationship between the J & J vaccine and deaths from clots (a very rare event)
  - An individual is 1000 times more likely to die from COVID than from the vaccine



#### Real World Data (NM DOH update 6/7/21)

- 696 vaccine breakthrough cases diagnosed in 937,297 fully vaccinated people in NM though 6/1/21 (0.07%) some under investigation to see if they represent prior
  COVID infection/exposure or new infection
- Unvaccinated to vaccinated cases Jan-May approximately 15:1
  - Unvaccinated case rates in NM about the same as the inclusive rate 3/3/21
- Unvaccinated to vaccinated hospitalizations Jan-May approximately 10:1
  - Unvaccinated hospitalization rate about the same as the inclusive rate 2/23/21
- Unvaccinated to vaccinated deaths Jan-May approximately 23:1



#### **Overcoming Vaccine Hesitancy: Key Reminders**

- The COVID-19 vaccines protect you and others
- The development was fast, but it did not skip steps
- Diversity in the COVID-19 vaccine testing helped assess safety and efficacy
- Side effects from the vaccine are temporary and do not mean you're sick
- Allergies? You can probably still get the COVID-19 vaccine
- Women's health: pregnant women should consult with their medical provider, but the vaccine is safe for breastfeeding mothers and also does not affect fertility
- If you've already had COVID-19, getting the vaccine will add extra protection
- Time is of the essence: waiting too long allows the virus to further spread and makes emerging variants more likely



## Overcoming Vaccine Hesitancy: What Can You Do?

- Provide emotional support
- Acknowledge uncertain risk
- Talk about known risks
- Provide information for information-seekers
- Partner with communities
- Share your experience
- Tap into people's desire to protect

Instead of persuading, try to understand

Talk to a trusted clinician

